

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PANAMA 00706 011407Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CU-02 IO-13 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 IGA-02 SS-15
NSC-05 SP-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 PRS-01 L-03 H-01 SAB-01
/084 W

-----011457Z 006516 /42

R 312151Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 541

INFO PANCANAL

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 0706

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PN

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: STUDENTS ALLEGE TORTURE

1. A RECENTLY DISTRIBUTED FLYSHEET OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PANAMA LAW STUDENTS CENTER (CED) ALLEGES THAT FIVE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WERE ARRESTED AND TORTURED BY AGENTS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD (GN) G-2 ON JANUARY 16, 1977. THE ARRESTS ALLEGED IN THE HANDOUT OCCURRED IN RELATION TO A RALLY SPONSORED BY PANAMA'S LABOR UNION ORGANIZATIONS TO PROTEST THE GOP'S RECENT CHANGES IN THE COUNTRY'S LABOR CODE. THE RALLY WAS CALLED OFF AT GOP BEHEST.

2. MEMBERS OF SOME ANTI-GOVERNMENT STUDENT GROUPS, PRINCIPALLY GUAYKUCHO AND FER (FRENTE ESTUDIANTIL REVOLUCIONARIO), WANTED TO ALIGN THEMSELVES WITH LABOR AT THE RALLY IN CONDEMNING WHAT THEY REGARD AS ANTI-POPULAR MEASURES. THE CED IS CONTROLLED BY THOSE TWO STUDENT POLITICAL GROUPS.

3. THE HANDOUT DENOUNCES THE ARRESTS OF: SANDRA OSORIO, FERNANDO LEVI, ANAXIMEDES GONZALEZ, HECTOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PANAMA 00706 011407Z

DE LA CRUZ AND (FNU) GOMEZ. OSORIO AND LEVI ARE LISTED AS MEMBERS OF THE CED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. THE HANDOUT ALLEGES THAT ALL WERE "BRUTALLY TORTURED FOR MORE THAN 15 HOURS AFTER THEIR ARREST BY AGENTS OF THE GN AND AFTERWARDS SENT WITH URGENCY TO SANTO TOMAS HOSPITAL".

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS RELIABLE INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT STUDENTS WERE ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABORTIVE RALLY ON JANUARY 16. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, AT LEAST SOME UNIVERSITY STUDENTS BELIEVE THE ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE ARE TRUE, BUT WE HAVE SO FAR NOT BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THEM.
GONZALEZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PANAMA00706
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770035-0729
Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977012/aaaaabtm.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 31609ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3507628
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS: STUDENTS ALLEGE TORTURE
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, PN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/31609ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009